



JPW
3

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q76570

Kazuo AKAGAMI, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/632,832

Group Art Unit: 3682

Confirmation No.: 9234

Examiner: William C. JOYCE

Filed: August 04, 2003

For: BEARING APPARATUS OF SEALING TYPE

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The Examiner has identified the application as containing claims directed to five (5) distinct species. The Examiner has required the Applicants to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted. The Examiner believes there are no generic claims. Applicants have been advised that a response to this requirement shall include an identification of the species that is elected and a listing of all claims readable thereon.

In response to the Examiner's requirement, Applicants elect **Species V, FIGS. 15-22 and 24-28** for examination on which pending **claims 5, 12, and 14** are readable.

During a teleconference on October 12, 2004 between Examiner William Joyce and Ellen R. Smith, it was noted that the Election of Species Requirement mailed October 5, 2004 incorrectly states that claims 1-18 are pending, although only claims 5, 12 and 14 are actually

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT
U.S. Appln. No. 10/632,832

pending. Despite this clerical error, Examiner Joyce suggested that Applicants simply elect one of the species.

Applicant submits that if any of the elected claims are found to be allowable, claims dependent therefrom should similarly be considered allowable in the same application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

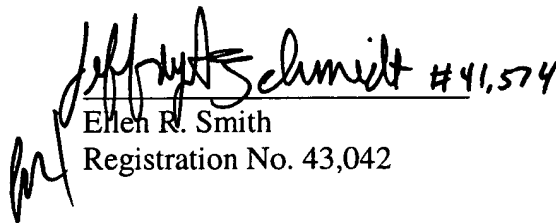
SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: November 3, 2004

 #41,574
Ellen R. Smith
Registration No. 43,042

Attorney Docket No.: Q76570